

Message Text

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SUBJ: STATEMENT OF OBJECTIVES OF BANZER GOVERNMENT

THIS TELEGRAM TRANSMITS AN INFORMAL EMBASSY TRANSLATION OF THE LIST OF POLITICAL, ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL OBJECTIVES CONTAINED IN DECREE LAW 11947, PROMULGATED BY THE BANZER GOVERNMENT ON NOVEMBER 9, 1974:

ARTICLE 1 - NATIONAL MOBILIZATION ABOUT THE ARMED FORCES IS DECREED, IN ORDER TO ATTAIN ACCELERATED SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF THE REPUBLIC AND THE FULL AND COMPLETE FULFILLMENT OF THE BOLIVIAN MAN, PLUS THE STRENGTHENING OF THE COUNTRY'S INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL SECURITY.

ARTICLE 2 - TOWARD THIS END, THE ARMED FORCES OF THE NATIONAL ASSUME FULL POLITICAL-ADMINISTRATIVE RESPONSIBILITY AND FULL CONTROL OF THE GOVERNMENT UNTIL 1980.

ARTICLE 3 - THE CONSTITUTION OF 1967 IS HEREBY DECLARED FULLY IN FORCE IN ALL ASPECTS WHICH DO NOT CONFLICT WITH THIS STATUTE OF GOVERNMENT, INSTITUTIONAL DISPOSITIONS AND SUCH DECREE LAWS THAT MAY BE ADOPTED BY THE NATIONAL GOVERNMENT, IN ORDER TO PROTECT THE HIGHEST INTERESTS OF THE COUNTRY.

ARTICLE 4 - THE GOVERNMENT INTENDS TO ATTAIN DURING THE PERIOD OF UNCLASSIFIED

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TIME NOTED UNDER ARTICLE 2 THE FOLLOWING BASIC OBJECTIVES:

I. POLITICAL AND INSTITUTIONAL

- A) SEEK THE COMMON WELFARE OF THE PEOPLE, RESPECTING THE HUMAN PERSON AND THE CHRISTIAN VALUES OF WESTERN CULTURE.
- B) UNIFY THE BOLIVIAN PEOPLE ABOUT THE GREAT NATIONAL OBJECTIVES.
- C) AS THE ESSENTIAL BASIS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT AND STRENGTHENING OF ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES AND THE PROGRESS OF THE COUNTRY, MAINTAIN AND GUARANTEE STABILITY, ORDER AND SOCIAL PEACE.
- D) ADOPT A POLICY OF AUSTERITY AND MORALITY WITHIN THE PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION, APPLYING INFLEXIBLY THE LAW ON ECONOMIC CRIMES AGAINST THE STATE AND THE STATE SECURITY LAW.
- E) CARRY OUT REFORMS IN THE POLITICAL-ADMINISTRATIVE AND SOCIO-ECONOMIC STRUCTURES OF THE NATION, INSTITUTIONALIZING THESE BY MEANS OF LEGAL REGULATIONS.
- F) MAKE ALL EFFORTS TO OVERCOME THE CURRENT CRISIS EXISTING WITHIN THE POLITICAL INSTITUTIONS, CREATING THE CONDITIONS NECESSARY FOR THE FORMATION OF BROAD POLITICAL CURRENTS AROUND CLEAR IDEOLOGIES AND PROGRAMS, IN ORDER TO AVOID THE PRESENT DISPERSION AND ATOMIZATION.
- G) CREATE LINKS OF FRIENDSHIP AND SOLIDARITY WITH ALL THE NATIONS OF THE WORLD, MAINTAINING RELATIONS WITHIN A FRAMEWORK OF RESPECT FOR THE STANDARDS OF INTERNATIONAL LAW, AND THE INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS PRESENTLY IN FORCE, AS WELL AS FOR THE CNTRACTS AND COMMITMENTS SUBSCRIBED TO BY THE STATE.
- H) ENCOURAGE ALL CULTURAL, CIVIC, SCIENTIFIC AND SPORTS ACTIVITIES.

II. ECONOMIC

DEVELOP THE COUNTRY BY USING ALL ITS POTENTIAL TO TH MAXIMUM, PLACING EMPHASIS ON THE BACKWARD ECONOMIC AREAS, USING INTERNATIONAL AND NATIONAL FINANCIAL RESOURCES: ENCOURAGE AND GUARANTEE THE INVESTMENT OF FOREIGN AND NATIONAL CAPITAL: DEVELOP INFRASTRUCTURE BY MEANS OF ROAD AND RAILROAD CONSTRUCTION: CONSTRUCTION OF NEW HIGHWAYS AND AIRFIELDS: COMMUNICATION NETS WITH NEW TECHNICAL SYSTEMS: CREATE AND GUARANTEE FREEDOM OF WORK, FORBIDDING ANY TYPE OF MONOPOLY: GENERATE ELECTRICAL POWER: IN THE HYDROCARBONS FIELD, DEVELOP THE PETROCHEMICAL, MINING, METALLURGY

SIDERURGY AND AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRIES AND CATTLE RAISING: EXPLOIT HYDRAULIC RESOURCES: STIMULATE AND DIVERSIFY NON-TRADITIONAL EXPORTS: INCREASE TRADITIONAL EXPORTS: EXPEDITE THE ESTABLISHMENT

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OF NEW INDUSTRIES AND THE CREATION OF NEW LABOR SOURCES: FAVOR THE CONSUMPTION OF NATIONAL MANUFACTURES, FORBIDDING THE IMPORTS OF SIMILAR ITEMS: ADOPT SEVERE MEASURES IN ORDER TO THOROUGHLY ERADICATE ALL SMUGGLING ACTIVITIES: STRENGTHEN THE POLICY OF REGIONAL AND SUB-REGIONAL INTEGRATION: ENCOURAGE THE TOURIST INDUSTRY: IMPLEMENT A PROGRAM OF DEVELOPMENT POLES IN ORDER TO ECONOMICALLY INTEGRATE THE COUNTRY, SEEK TO INCREASE GROSS NATIONAL INCOME AND MONETARY RESERVES, SEEKING THEIR PROPER UTILIZATION IN PLANS OF DEVELOPMENT:

STRENGTHEN OUR CURRENCY: COMPLETE LEGAL REORGANIZATION BY MEANS OF THE APPROVAL OF THE NEW CIVIL CODE, THE CODE OF COMMERCE, THE GENERAL LAW OF BANKING AND FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS, THE GENERAL INSURANCE LAW, THE PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS LAW AND OTHER LEGAL DISPOSITIONS WHICH WOULD STIMULATE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY.

III. SOCIAL

ATTAIN SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT BY MEANS OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, SEEKING THE FAIR DISTRIBUTION OF WEALTH: APPROVE THE NEW LABOR CODE, BASED ON PRINCIPLES OF TRUE SOCIAL JUSTICE: FURTHER THE PARTICIPATION OF THE WORKERS IN THE PROFITS OF THE ORGANIZATIONS: IMPROVE THE STANDARD OF LIVING: ADOPT MEASURES TOWARD ENDING UNEMPLOYMENT: INCORPORATE THE NATIONAL MAJORITIES IN THE ECONOMIC AND CULTURAL PROCESS: DEFEND AND PROTECT THE PEOPLE'S HEALTH: ORGANIZE HOUSING PROGRAMS DIRECTED TO THE GOAL OF HAVING A HOME FOR EACH BOLIVIAN: IMMEDIATE REVIEW OF THE MUNICIPAL REGULATIONS AND UPDATING OF THEM TO OFFER BETTER FACILITIES FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF HOUSES AND URBAN SERVICES: ADOPT A CREDIT POLICY FOR HOUSING PROJECTS AND THOSE OF A SOCIAL NATURE: ADOPT A SOCIAL SECURITY SYSTEM BENEFITING ALL THE PEOPLE AND IMPROVING SERVICES AND BENEFITS: EXECUTION OF THE SOCIO-ECONOMIC PROGRAMS OF CIVIC ACTION OF THE ARMED FORCES OF THE NATION IN RURAL AND URBAN AREAS: APPLICATION OF SEVERE SANCTIONS AGAINST DRUG TRAFFICKERS, DEFENDING OUR HUMAN CAPITAL: POLICIES FOR THE PROTECTION OF INFANTS AND THE ELDERLY.

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ARTICLE 5 - THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT OF THE COUNTRY WILL BE BASED ON THE FIVE-YEAR PLAN, WHICH SHOULD FOLLOW THE GUIDELINES SET FORTH UNDER THE PRECEDING ARTICLE, WHOSE EXECUTION HAS THE HIGHEST PRIORITY.

ARTICLE 6 - THE NATIONAL GOVERNMENT, IF IT CONSIDERS IT NECESSARY, MAY REQUEST THE ASSISTANCE OF THE MOST CAPABLE MEN AND WOMEN FOR WORK ON CERTAIN SERVICES AND MATTERS OF STATE. OBLIGATORY CIVILIAN SERVICE IS HEREBY ESTABLISHED AND WILL BE REGULATED BY A SPECIAL DECREE.

ARTICLE 7 - IN ORDER TO ENSURE THE CREATION OF NEW SOURCES OF EMPLOYMENT, TO FURTHER PRODUCTION ACTIVITIES AND TO IMPROVE THE ECONOMIC CONDITIONS OF THE LABOR SECTOR, IT IS HEREBY ESTABLISHED THAT THE COMPANIES ENGAGED IN EXPLOITATION, TRANSFORMATION, SERVICES, BANKING AND COMMERCIAL ACTIVITIES ARE OBLIGED TO INVEST THEIR PROFITS IN THEIR OWN COMPANIES, THUS CREATING NEW SOURCES OF EMPLOYMENT AND THE MODERNIZING OF ITS TECHNOLOGY, MACHINERY AND FACILITIES. A REGULATORY DECREE WILL DETERMINE THE APPLICATION OF THIS ARTICLE.

ARTICLE 8 - FREEDOM OF THE PRESS IS HEREBY DECLARED TO BE IN FORCE: THE ORGANS OF MASS COMMUNICATION SHOULD ORIENT THEIR ACTIVITIES TOWARD THE MAINTENANCE OF SOCIAL PEACE, ASSISTING IN THE NATIONAL EFFORT FOR THE ATTAINMENT OF THE OBJECTIVES SET FORTH UNDER ARTICLES UNCLASSIFIED

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1 AND 2 AND THE SPIRIT OF THIS DECREE LAW.

ARTICLE 9 - THE EXECUTIVE POWER WILL BE EXERCISED BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC AS CAPTAIN GENERAL OF THE ARMED FORCES OF THE NATION AND THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS FORMED BY THE MINISTERS OF STATE IN THE PORTFOLIOS OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND WORSHIP: NATIONAL DEFENSE: INTERIOR, IMMIGRATION AND JUSTICE: PLANNING AND COORDINATION:

FINANCE: EDUCATION AND CULTURE: TRANSPORTATION, COMMUNICATIONS AND CIVIL AERONAUTICS: INDUSTRY, COMMERCE AND TOURISM: RURAL AND AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS: LABOR AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT: SOCIAL WELFARE AND PUBLIC HEALTH: MINING AND METALLURGY: ENERGY AND HYDROCARBONS: URBAN AFFAIRS AND HOUSING, AND ONE MINISTER WITHOUT PORTFOLIO. THE MEMBERS OF THE JOINT COMMAND OF THE ARMED FORCES OF THE NATION WILL PARTICIPATE IN THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS WITH THE RANK OF MINISTERS OF STATE, EXERCISING AT THE SAME TIME THEIR SPECIFIC FUNCTIONS AS COMMANDERS OF THEIR RESPECTIVE SERVICES. THE COMMANDER OF THE BOLIVIAN POLICE, THE SECRETARY-GENERAL AND THE SECRETARY-GENERAL FOR INFORMATION OF THE PRESIDENCY OF THE REPUBLIC SHALL ATTEND THE MEETINGS OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS.

ARTICLE 10 - THE JUDICIAL POWER WILL BE REORGANIZED WITHIN THE PERIOD OF 30 DAYS, UNDER STRICT PRINCIPLES WHICH WILL GUARANTEE HONESTY, PROMPTNESS, IMPARTIALITY AND EFFICIENT

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE, MAINTAINING THE ECONOMIC AUTONOMY OF THIS BRANCH OF GOVERNMENT.

ARTICLE II -- ALL POLITICAL AND PROSELYTIZING ACTIVITIES IN THE TERRITORY OF THE REPUBLIC ARE HEREBY FORBIDDEN, TOGETHER WITH ALL MEETINGS, ASSEMBLIES, DEMONSTRATIONS AND OTHER POLITICAL-PARTISAN ACTIVITIES. THIS PROHIBITION WILL BE ENFORCED BY A SPECIAL DECREE LAW.

ARTICLE 12 - WHILE THE LEADERSHIPS OF BUSINESSMEN'S ASSOCIATIONS, LABOR UNIONS, PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS, STUDENT AND NIVERSITY GROUPS ARE BEIG REORGANIZED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE REGULATIONS TO BE SET FORTH BY THE NATIONAL GOVERNMENT, THE CESSATION OF THE FUNCTIONS OF THE AFORE-MENTIONED ORGANIZATIONS AND THEIR RESPECTIVE FEDERATIONS AND CONFEDERATIONS IS HERBY DECREED. HENCE ALL STRIKES, WORK STOPPAGES, LOCK-OUTS, AND OTHEG FORMS OF SUSPENSION OF WORK AND PRODUCTIVE ACTIVITIES ARE HEREBY FORBIDDEN.

ARTICLE 13 - THE PRINCIPAL NATIONAL OBJECTIVES ARE: THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE COUNTRY, ITS STRENGTHENING, ITS STRUCTURAL TRANSOFRMATION, INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL SECURITY, AND NATIONAL UNITY. ALL
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NATURAL OR JURIDICAL PERSONS, NATIONAL OR FOREIGN, WHATEVER THEIR ACTIVITIES OR CONDITION, WHO HINDER THE ATTAINMENT OF THESE OBJECTIVE
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AND WHO THREATEN SECURITY, SOCIAL PEACE OR PUBLIC ORDER, WILL BE SANTIONED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE STATE SECURITY LAW.

ARTICLE 14 - ALL PUBLIC AND PRIVATE ORGANIZATIONS AND INSTITUTIONS THAT CARRY OUT ACTIVITIES DISTINCT FROM THEIR NATURAL ONES, AND WHICH ENGAGE IN POLITICAL ACTIVITIES, WILL BE SANCTIONED IN CONFORMIT
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WITH WHAT IS ESTABLISHED IN ARTICLES II AND 13.

THE MINISTERS OF STATE IN THEIR RESPECTIVE PORTFOLIOS ARE CHARGED WITH THE EXECUTION AND FULFILLMENT OF THIS DECREE LAW.

GIVEN AT THE PALACE OF GOVERNMENT IN THE CITY OF LA PAZ ON THE NINTH DAY OF NOVEMBER IN THE YEAR NINETEEN SEVENTY FOUR.

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